

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY FEBRUARY 12, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 14

Introduced by Assembly Member Waldron
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Maienschein)

December 1, 2014

An act to add and repeal Title 24 (commencing with Section 110050) of the Government Code, relating to unmanned aircraft *systems*.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 14, as amended, Waldron. Unmanned aircraft *systems*: task force.

Existing federal law, the Federal Aviation Administration Modernization and Reform Act of 2012, provides for the integration of civil unmanned aircraft systems, commonly known as drones, into the national airspace system by September 30, 2015. Existing federal law requires the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to develop and implement operational and certification requirements for the operation of public unmanned aircraft systems in the national airspace system by December 31, 2015.

This bill would create the Unmanned Aircraft *Systems* Task Force, *comprised of 10 members, as provided*. The bill would require the task force ~~would be responsible for formulating~~ *to research, develop, and formulate* a comprehensive ~~plan~~ *policy* for ~~state regulation~~ of unmanned aircraft *systems*. The task force would be required to submit, among other things, a ~~comprehensive~~ policy draft and suggested legislation pertaining to unmanned aircraft *systems* to the Legislature and the Governor *throughout the term of the task force*, on or before January 1, 2018. The bill would provide that these provisions are repealed on January 1, 2022.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Title 24 (commencing with Section 110050) is
2 added to the Government Code, to read:

3
4 TITLE 24. UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS TASK
5 FORCE
6

7 110050. (a) The Legislature finds and declares that there is a
8 need for California to have in place a comprehensive policy for
9 the operation of unmanned aircraft *systems*, and a desire to work
10 *with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in the development*
11 *of and within the guidelines of the Federal Aviation Administration*
12 ~~(FAA)~~ FAA as they are put in place.

13 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature in enacting this title that
14 ~~the a task force be created by this act formulate to advise the~~
15 *Governor and the Legislature in formulating a comprehensive*
16 *plan policy* for the state regarding unmanned aircraft *systems*,
17 *including, but not limited to, commenting on FAA policy*
18 *development, and anticipating and recognizing California's unique*
19 *needs for high technology, aerospace, commercial, agricultural*
20 *and public safety uses.*

21 110051. (a) There is hereby created the Unmanned Aircraft
22 Systems Task Force which shall operate for two years, until January
23 1, 2018.

24 (b) The task force shall *take all actions necessary to research,*
25 *develop, and formulate a comprehensive-plan policy for state*
26 ~~regulation of~~ *unmanned aircraft systems, to promote aviation,*
27 *aerospace, agricultural, public safety and technology industry*
28 *uses throughout the state, through the commercialization of*
29 *aviation, aerospace, and technology products and ideas, including,*
30 *but not limited to, all of the following:*

31 (1) ~~Reviewing~~ *Review* regulations and guidance from the FAA
32 regarding unmanned aircraft *systems* and ~~incorporating~~ *incorporate*
33 them into a state policy ~~draft~~ *draft and advise the Governor and*
34 *the Legislature on an on-going basis regarding FAA policy*
35 *development, task force activities, and public comment regarding*

1 *the development of the FAA guidelines to coincide with the needs*
2 *of California.*

3 ~~(2) Providing~~ Provide written recommendations, together with
4 suggested legislation, for a comprehensive state policy for
5 unmanned aircraft systems that protects privacy and allows the use
6 of unmanned aircraft systems for public and private applications.

7 ~~(3) Evaluating complaints and concerns that are expressed to~~
8 ~~the task force regarding the use of unmanned aircraft.~~

9 ~~(4) Studying the private use of unmanned aircraft to encourage~~
10 ~~development of the unmanned aircraft industry in the private sector.~~

11 (3) *Study the private use of unmanned aircraft systems to*
12 *encourage development of the unmanned aircraft systems industry*
13 *in the private sector.*

14 (4) *Evaluate complaints and concerns that are expressed to the*
15 *task force regarding the use of unmanned aircraft systems.*

16 ~~(5) Studying~~ Study and ~~making~~ make recommendations with
17 respect to ensuring that unmanned aircraft systems users comply
18 with applicable laws, and ~~assessing~~ assess implementation plans
19 and results.

20 (6) *Encourage communication and resource sharing among*
21 *individuals and organizations involved in the aviation, aerospace,*
22 *agriculture, government, and technology industry, including*
23 *business, the military, and academia.*

24 110052. (a) Any written recommendations, suggested
25 legislation, or other drafts or documents required to be prepared
26 pursuant to Section 110051 shall be submitted to the Legislature
27 and the Governor *throughout the term of the task force*, on or
28 before January 1, 2018.

29 (b) The materials described in subdivision (a) shall be submitted
30 in compliance with Section 9795.

31 110053. The task force shall consist of 10 members, as follows,
32 who shall serve a two-year term:

33 (a) The Adjutant General of the Military Department, or his or
34 her designee, shall be an ex officio member of the task force.

35 (b) Three members appointed by the Governor:

36 (1) A member representing the California University System.

37 (2) A member representing agriculture.

38 (3) A member from the Governor's economic development
39 group.

1 (c) Three members appointed by the Senate Committee on
2 Rules:

- 3 (1) A member representing the aerospace industry.
4 (2) A member representing the Academy of Model Aeronautics.
5 (3) A member representing law enforcement.

6 (d) Three members appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly:

- 7 (1) A member representing business and industry.
8 (2) Two public members who have participated in the unmanned
9 aircraft *system* industry and who have experience operating
10 unmanned aircraft *systems*.

11 110054. (a) The task force may meet as frequently as necessary
12 to carry out its responsibilities.

13 (b) The members of the task force shall serve without
14 compensation, but shall receive a per diem of one hundred dollars
15 (\$100) and reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses
16 incurred in connection with the performance of their duties.

17 110055. The task force may appoint an executive director, who
18 may employ staff upon approval by the task force.

19 110056. The task force shall be funded by an appropriation in
20 the annual Budget Act.

21 110097. This title shall remain in effect only until January 1,
22 2022, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute,
23 that is enacted before January 1, 2022, deletes or extends that date.